

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

1. Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 7 and 8 (running from page 7, line 33, to page 8, line 15) with the following:

Figure 3 Top of the figure: shows the partial amino acid sequence of the cytoplasmic beta-actin protein of three different species, Homo sapiens (man), Mus musculus (mouse) and Caenorhabditis elegans (nematode). The alignment between these sequences shows the high degree of conservation of the cytoplasmic beta-actin protein between species. The asterisks indicate 100% equivalence in that position between the species being compared. The numbering corresponds to the last amino acid shown according to the reference sequence in the GeneBank (refs: Hs: X00351. Mm: NM 007393.1. Ce: NM 073416.1). Middle of the figure: specifies the nucleotide sequence of the ends of exons 2 and 3 that flank intron B (W region) in said species. The exons show the nucleotide sequence in the three species being compared, divided into their corresponding codons and the amino acid residue that they code is shown below. The asterisks correspond to the nucleotide positions that are 100% conserved between the species being compared. Bottom of the figure: specifies the complete nucleotide sequence of intron B (divergent W region) in the three species being compared (SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, and SEQ ID NO:12 for Hs, Mm and Ce, respectively), to illustrate the divergence used for the identification of the species in

this invention.

2. Please replace the first full paragraph on page 9 (running from line 14 to line 18) with the following:

Figure 6 shows an illustration of the divergence in molecular weight and in nucleotide sequence of the W region of some of the biological species included on the database. Us, Ursus species (SEQ ID NO:13). Oa, Ovis aries (SEQ ID NO:14). Cf, Canis familiaris (SEQ ID NO:15). Hs, Homo sapiens (SEQ ID NO:10). Ec, Equus caballus (SEQ ID NO:16). Oc, Oryctolagus cuniculus (SEQ ID NO:17). Rn, Rattus norvegicus (SEQ ID NO:18). Mm, Mus musculus (SEQ ID NO:11).